

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 4-6, 13 and 14 are pending herein. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 11, which has been cancelled hereby.

Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.

Examiner Song is thanked for courtesies extended to Applicants' undersigned representative during a telephonic interview on March 1, 2012. The substance of that interview has been incorporated into the following remarks.

1. Claims 1, 4 and 14 were rejected under §103(a) over Sasaki (US 2006/0051942); and claim 11 was rejected under §103(a) over Sasaki in view of Kitaoka (US 2004/0144300). To the extent that these rejections may be applied against amended claim 1, they are respectfully traversed.

During the telephonic interview, Examiner Song agreed that amending claim 1 as outlined above would overcome the prior art rejections of record. Accordingly, Applicants have so amended claim 1.

Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1, and claims 4 and 14 depending therefrom, are patentable over the applied prior art references of record for all the reasons submitted to date, which are incorporated herein by reference. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above grounds of rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

2. Claims 5 and 13 were rejected under §103(a) over Sasaki in view of Sarayama (US 2002/0175338); and claim 6 was rejected under §103(a) over Sasaki in view of D'Evelyn (US 2006/0096521). Applicants respectfully submit that the arguments submitted above distinguish amended claim 1 from Sasaki and Kitaoka. Since the secondary references of Sarayama and D'Evelyn fail to overcome the deficiencies of Sasaki and Kitaoka, and since claims 5, 6 and 13 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1, these claims are also believed to be allowable over the applied prior art.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims pending herein are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Examiner Song is requested to issue a Notice of Allowance for this application in due course.

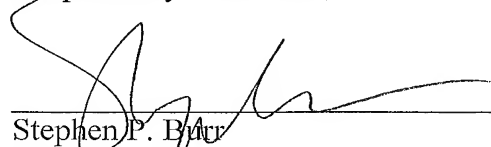
If Examiner Song believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, he is herein requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

March 20, 2012

Date

Respectfully submitted,


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